Proposals for setting up Hydro-Electric, Thermal, Nuclear and Gas based power projects in the States

2458. SHRI N.R. GOVINDARAJAR : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of proposals for setting up of hydro electric, thermal, gas based and nuclear power projects received by the Government from various States during the Ninth and Tenth Plan period, State-wise;

(b) the status of the proposal as on date project-wise, State-wise;

(c) the total expenditure involved and time over run of these projects; and

(d) the number of projects which are proposed to be cleared during the Tenth Plan State-wise along with the time schedule of their completion?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.M. SAYEED) : (a) to (d) Project-wise details of hydro electric projects appraised and TEC accorded during 9th and 10th Plan (Upto 11.08.2005) along with time and cost over runs are given in Annexure [See Appendix 205 Annexure No. 9].

As per the Electricity Act, 2003, the requirement of according Techno-Economic Clearance by CEA has been dispensed with for Thermal Generation. Details of thermal power projects appraised prior to this enactment are given in Annexure [See Appendix 205 Annexure No. 9].

Details of Thermal Projects having time and cost over runs during 9th & 10th Plan are given in Annexure [*See* Appendix 205 Annexure No. 9].

Electrification of villages under RGREP

†2459. SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have set a target to make electricity available in every village of the country by 2009 under 'Rajiv Gandhi Rural Electrification Plan;

(b) whether Government have made any plan to exploit the available sources of alternative energy available in the country to meet the said target; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.M. SAYEED): (a) Yes, Sir. It is targeted to electrify all villages and habitations under Rajiv Gandhi Grameen Vidyutikaran Yojana in five years.

(b) and (c) The Ministry of Non-conventional Energy Sources is implementing Remote Village Electrification Programme for electrification of un-electrified remote census villages with non-conventional energy sources such as solar energy, biomass, small hydro, etc. The Ministry has so far provided support under the programme for electrification of 3064 villages, of which 1944 have been completed. The Ministry provides 90% of the benchmark cost of electrification through non-conventional energy sources as Central Financial Assistance. For the X Plan, a target of electrification of 5,000 villages with the corresponding outlay of Rs. 735 crore has been set.

The Remote Village Electrification Programme aims at meeting the power needs of those un-electrified remote villages where electrification through grid extension is either not feasible or not cost-effective. Initial information as received from the States indicates that number of such villages could be around 25,000.

Indian delegation's visit to London

2460. SHRI RAASHID ALVI:
SHRI SANJAY RAUT:
DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether any Indian delegation paid a visit to London for discussing with European Union, if so, in what context and background the visit was planned; and

(b) the main objective of the visit and how far the same was achieved indicating the agreements and MoUs signed in the field of energy during the visit?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.M. SAYEED): (a) No, Sir. No Indian delegation paid a visit to London for discussions with European Union.

(b) Does not arise.